ABSTRACT

In-flight entertainment systems provide entertainment for passengers on commercial airline flights. Presently, usually on longer flights, video entertainment is commonly available on in-flight passenger entertainment systems. In-flight entertainment systems can display video on a variety of display monitors ranging from a conventional CRT display to a more modern Liquid Crystal Display (LCD). Generally most displays are connected to the aircraft electronic system via a ARINC 722 connector. The ARINC 722 connector commonly provides an electrical interface between the aircraft and the video system, whether the video system is a CRT or LCD type monitor. With the increasing use of LCD monitors there is a greater need for the ability of the display monitor to be able to report its status. The need for status reporting is increased because the LCD monitors are often greater in number than the prior art CRT monitors and because malfunctions are less obvious. Several methods for providing status information from video displays have been proposed. Embodiments of the present invention comprise a system wherein the display status information is superimposed upon a 28-volt monitor on-indicator signal, which currently is contained within the ARINC 722 connector which couples the display to the aircraft wiring. Because embodiments of the invention use an existing signal and superimpose further data upon it, the need for modification of the airline and monitor systems is greatly reduced.